

WE CLAIM:

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1. A system comprising:
a stuffed toy having two eyes and an image sensor therein, the sensor comprising
a two-dimensional array of optical sensing elements, and being positioned to view out of
at least one of said eyes;
5 a speaker; and
a processor coupled to said image sensor and speaker, the processor comprising a
steganographic watermark detector for sensing steganographic watermark data on an
object presented to the stuffed toy and triggering an action in response.

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2. A method comprising:

sensing a page or cover of a children's book with an image sensor, the sensor
comprising a two-dimensional array of optical sensing elements;
decoding a digital watermark from image data produced by the image sensor; and
15 triggering an action associated with said page or cover.

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3. The method of claim 2 wherein said action is speech reciting text from said
book.

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4. The method of claim 3 wherein said speech is assembled from component
phonemes or common words previously recorded by a person.

5. The method of claim 4 wherein said component phonemes or common words
are stored locally, and correspond to a child or a child's family member.

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6. The method of claim 4 wherein said component phonemes or common words
are stored remotely, and correspond to a celebrity voice.

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7. The method of claim 2 wherein said action is playback of music.

8. The method of claim 2 wherein said action is retrieving artwork from a data store, and printing said artwork for coloring by a child.

5 9. The method of claim 2 wherein said action is linking to an internet web site related to said book or its subject matter.

10. The method of claim 2 wherein said action is linking to an interactive multiplayer game related to said book or its subject matter.

10 11. The method of claim 2 wherein the action is speech, and the speech incorporates both text from the book, and substitute words.

15 12. The method of claim 11 that includes retrieving said substitute words from a local store.

13. The method of claim 11 that includes soliciting words from a child, recording the child's words, and using said recorded words as said substitute words.

20 14. The method of claim 11 wherein said substitute words customize the book text to a particular child or locale.

15. The method of claim 11 that further includes sensing a gesture from the image data, and controlling said action in accordance therewith.

25 16. The method of claim 15 wherein one gesture causes a page from the book to be read-aloud again.

17. The method of claim 15 wherein one gesture controls volume of audio delivered to a speaker.

18. The method of claim 15 wherein one gesture causes text from the book to be read-aloud at a faster speed.

19. The method of claim 15 wherein one gesture causes text read-aloud from the
5 book to be read using a different voice.

20. The method of claim 2 that comprises starting playback of a video at a point corresponding to said page or cover.

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